

TRIBUTE TO ANTHONY N. TONSICH

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Anthony N. Tonsich, the son of Croatian immigrants and a native of San Pedro who passed away on June 19, 2014 with his loving family by his side.

Anthony always had an adventurous spirit. Whether he was sailing on his boat, Lady Bug II, or traveling around Europe, Anthony's life was constantly marked by movement. So it came as no surprise when Anthony developed a love for automobiles and spent over 45 years in the car business without ever taking a sick day over the course of his career.

Anthony will most fondly be remembered for the lasting impact that he had on his family, friends, and community. He enlisted in the Army and served as a drill instructor until 1952, helping new recruits become accustomed to military life. Yet Anthony's ability to lead by example did not end when he took off the uniform in 1952. He continued to inspire others through his generous spirit, warm personality, and extraordinary work ethic. He served as a role model for people in San Pedro, especially his eight beloved grandchildren and his three children: Anthony, Suzanne, and my dear friend Nick.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that all members of the House join me in a moment of silence to commemorate the life and legacy of Anthony N. Tonsich.

THE ALEXANDRIA REDEVELOPMENT & HOUSING AUTHORITY

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding organization in my district. The Alexandria Redevelopment & Housing Authority (ARHA) was created by the City of Alexandria under the authorization of Housing Authority Law, Chapter 1, Title 36 Code of Virginia, in 1939, for the express purpose of operating the Affordable Housing Program for low and moderate-income individuals in Alexandria. ARHA's goal is to provide citizens the ability to own a home or secure an affordable rental unit and improve the quality of life for all Alexandrians.

ARHA commenced operations in Alexandria, Virginia in 1941. They built their organization on a foundation that advocated the importance of providing safe, decent, sanitary, and affordable housing. They have grown into a stellar operation and are a leader in the development and management of mixed income housing in Alexandria. Home equity, housing security, and self-sufficiency are all important for Alexandrians to ensure a high quality of life. ARHA empowers its clients in these areas by providing an array of supportive services that give residents the opportunities needed to grow independently.

A healthy housing industry is important to the economic development of the City of Alexandria. It provides families with affordable

housing opportunities and the chance to build equity while strengthening the tax base, creating jobs, and opening doors for further growth and development. Their continued partnerships between financial institutions and housing developers will continue to provide needed affordable housing opportunities for residents in Alexandria.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the Alexandria Redevelopment & Housing Authority for their outstanding work and contribution to our community.

MICHELLE WIE WINNING HER 1ST MAJOR

HON. TULSI GABBARD

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a local Hawaii girl who has stormed the world stage of golf, and made our state proud as we have watched her grow and achieve. On Sunday, Honolulu-born Michelle Wie won the U.S. Women's Open, her first major in a long career that began on the lush golf courses of Oahu.

The daughter of South Korean immigrants, Michelle started golfing at age four and by age 10 became the youngest qualifier ever at the USGA Women's Amateur Public Links Championship. In 2007, she graduated from Punahou School on Oahu.

Whether pioneering her unique putting style or showing grace and determination under intense media spotlight and pressure, Michelle has shown she is an athlete beyond her years.

Michelle, the people of Hawaii are cheering you on as you take your career to the next level, and continue to represent our state and the aloha spirit! Congratulations!

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF JOHN EDWARD BARBER

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month, to recognize John Edward Barber. John was born to Nancy and Robert Barber on December 3, 1972 in Winter Garden, Florida. John graduated from West Orange High School in 1991 after spending a year in Germany on a Congress-Bundestag Scholarship through AFS.

John then went on to study Political Science and Women's Studies at the University of South Florida, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in 1995. While in college, John and Sam Singhaus teamed up to perform as their drag characters, Tweeka Louise Weed and Miss Sammy, doing shows in Orlando and Tampa.

John moved to Miami's South Beach, then to Atlanta, before moving back to Orlando to attend cosmetology school. He built a faithful following as a hair stylist, working most recently at Vamp Hair Salon in Orlando's Thornton Park neighborhood. He was voted Favorite

Local Hair Stylist in Watermark magazine's 2008 "Wave Awards".

He stayed active in politics, using his Tweeka Weed persona as a political and social commentator on radio station 106.7 FM (WXXL) during the 2008 elections. He was also a volunteer during Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer's campaign and an active political fundraiser and supporter. John was also an advocate for HIV and AIDS awareness.

John was seldom without his sense of humor. He was a consummate entertainer wherever he was, whether it was talking to customers as he styled their hair or raising funds for a political candidate or charity.

John died Monday, Oct. 17, 2011, after a ten-month battle with cancer. He was just 38 years old.

John's legacy lives on in Orlando through The Barber Fund which he founded while undergoing intense cancer treatment. John touched many lives and will be remembered as someone who spent his time on Earth making our community a better and more beautiful place.

He is survived by his mother, Nancy Barber; his grandmother, Nancy Arnold; his sister, Nancy Barber; his sister and brother-in-law, Robin and Ron Branch, and their children, Ellie, Steve, and Bobby Branch; his aunt and uncle, Fran and Dan Arnold, Jr.; and his aunt, Carol Booth.

I am proud to honor the memory of John Edward Barber, during LGBT Pride Month.

CONGRATULATING VETERAN RON STOPPELMANN

HON. JASON T. SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate veteran Ron Stoppelmann and thank him for his service in the United States Army. Stoppelmann has shown his strength not only in the military, but also in his daily life.

Ron Stoppelmann, an artillery mechanic during the Vietnam War, was able to save countless lives when he controlled a fire that had begun after a propellant charge from an artillery round exploded and spread to an ammunition storage point. There was danger of the fire reaching other storage units which would have caused the detonation of ammunition as well as personal harm to staff at nearby facilities. At the risk of injury, he controlled the flames and prevented it from spreading further.

Due to his bravery, Stoppelmann has been recognized for several honors. Some of his achievements include the Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, National Defense Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Bronze Star, and the Soldier's Medal for Heroism in a Non-Combat Situation.

Ron Stoppelmann has shown bravery and strength in many situations and I know those traits will continue to be with him in his future endeavors. I wish him all the best.